

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 03845 081228Z  
ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 IGA-02 L-03 AGRE-00  
COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /084 W  
-----031250 081515Z /45  
R 080855Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4823  
INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 3845

DEPT PASS TO USDA/FAS AND AID

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: LE EAGR EAID  
SUBJ: TITLE I, PL 480, FY 1979

REF: (A) FASTO CIRC 290, (B) BEIRUT 3694

1. REF (A) PASSED TO US BY AGATT OFFICE, DAMASCUS. WE REPORTED  
IN REF (B) THAT NO COMPELLING POLITICAL ARGUMENTS AT THIS TIME  
WOULD SUPPORT AN AID PROGRAM FOR FY 1979. THE SAME APPLIES AS  
CONCERNS A FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ON CONCESSIONAL TERMS.

2. WE HAVE, NEVERTHELESS, ASSEMBLED SOME ANNUAL CONSUMPTION  
LEVEL FIGURES, BASED ON 1974 AND EARLIER DATA, WHICH MIGHT SERVE  
AS USEFUL PLANNING DATA FOR A PL 480 PROGRAM OR, PERHAPS BETTER,  
A CCC CREDIT PROGRAM:

A. WHEAT: CONSUMPTION, 360,000 MT. ANNUAL DOMESTIC PRODUCTION  
AROUND 60,000 MT. UNDER AGREEMENT AS AMENDED THIS YEAR, GOL WILL  
PURCHASE 100,000 MT FROM CANADIAN WHEAT BOARD IN 1979. OF  
REMAINING 200,000 MT PERHAPS HALF WOULD COME FROM A USG PROGRAM  
AND THE OTHER HALF FROM ALL PRIVATE, COMMERCIAL SOURCES,  
INCLUDING U.S.

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B. RICE: CONSUMPTION, 18,000 MT. ALL RICE TRADITIONALLY IMPORT-  
ED BY PRIVATE TRADERS. IN 1977, ABOUT 5,000 MT WILL COME FROM  
TITLE I AND MAYBE TWICE THAT MUCH IN 1978. DEPENDING UPON  
ACCEPTANCE OF VARIETIES AND PRICE, AS MUCH AS 10,000 MT MIGHT  
BE INCLUDED IN A 1979 USG PROGRAM. THE HIGH COSTS OF FREIGHT  
HAVE RAISED QUESTIONS, HOWEVER, AND IF GOL COULD NOT GET COMMO-  
DITY ON CONCESSIONAL TERMS, MEDITERRANEAN SOURCES WOULD BE

TOUGH COMPETITORS.

C. LIVESTOCK FEED (CORN/BARLEY): CONSUMPTION, 80,000 MT. BULK OF REQUIREMENT HAS TRADITIONALLY BEEN IMPORTED, PARTICULARLY FOR POULTRY INDUSTRY WHICH STRUGGLING TO RECOVER FROM DAMAGE/DESTRUCTION. UP TO 30,000 MT MIGHT BE CONSIDERED IN A U.S. PROGRAM IN EFFORT TO ESTABLISH COUNTRY DEMAND ON COMMERCIAL BASIS.

D. VEGETABLE OIL: EXPERIENCE IN NEGOTIATING 1977 AGREEMENT INDICATES GOL NOT INTERESTED IN VEGOIL BECAUSE OF PROBLEMS HANDLING BULK COMMODITY BOTH BY GOVERNMENT AND EVENTUAL WHOLESALE/RETAIL OUTLETS.

3. WE SUGGEST THAT COMPARATIVE ASPECTS OF PL 480 CONCESSIONAL VERSUS CCC COMMERCIAL U.S. PROGRAMS AS WELL AS FOREGOING CONSUMPTION AND DEMAND DATA BE REVIEWED WITH AGATT PITCHER, WHO CURRENTLY IN U.S. REQUEST WE BE PROVIDED WITH RESULTS.

4. WE HAVE NOT YET NOR DO WE PROPOSE TO DISCUSS 1979 PROGRAM WITH GOL.  
PARKER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, PL 480, CONSUMPTION, RICE, CORN, WHEAT, ECONOMIC DATA  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 77 BEIRUT 3694  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009